

March 18, 2015

Dear Representative Ritter,

I am writing to express my concerns with HB 6949. I am very much against the passing of this bill.

Vaccines are not 100 % safe for everyone. There are often significant and sometimes devastating side effects for each and every vaccine. Some of these include death, encephalitis, anaphylaxis, mitochondrial dysfunction, demyelination of the central nervous system, seizures, SIDS, hypotonia, neuropathy and Guillain-Barre' syndrome. They are listed in the manufacturer inserts included in every vaccine. These reactions are not something out of a science fiction movie. They are real.

Let's consider the reason this bill was created, the measles outbreak. According to the CDC, not one person has died from the measles in 10 years; however, according to the VAERS database, there have 108 deaths from the vaccine itself. Additionally, vaccines can shed and cause the disease itself – this is well-documented. Many of the children who were involved with the Disneyland outbreak were vaccinated. There is absolutely no proof yet showing where the disease originated. I suspect we'll never know. All of this aside, Connecticut has a high rate of vaccination, so there is no reason for this bill, except for special interests to swoop in and take advantage of the media hoopla that has wrongly ensued.

As a parent, I reserve the right to decide if I want to take the risk of exposing my children to the side effects associated with vaccines. If vaccines are not 100% safe for everyone, a mandated schedule of vaccination forces some to experience side effects, some of which can be devastating. The parent, no one else, should have the power to determine if a child will become a statistic.

Sincerely,

Maria Buchta